The

LESLIE BELL SINGERS

Directed by

DR. LESLIE BELL

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Sponsored by

Bridge Street United Church Choir

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MAY 9th, 1949

Bridge Street United Church

Bell Singers and Dr. Leslie Bell

Organized ten years ago as an alumni girls' chorus, the Leslie Bell Singers have since earned an international reputation as an 'a capella' group. Critics in Canada and the United States hail them as 'unrivalled' for their superb ensemble singing, beautiful voices, versatile repertoire, and for the freshness and charm of the choir itself. Indeed, the remarkable co-ordination of the Leslie Bell Singers and the genuine pleasure each member derives from participation in the singing group add to their over-whelming popularity.

A major contributing factor, of course, to the Bell Singers' reputation are the unique musical arrangements by Dr. Leslie Bell who possesses a rare combination of musicianship, diplomacy and discrimination. Recognized throughout the world as a leading arranger of choral music, Leslie Bell arranges all types of music for 'a capella' or unaccompanied singing. Not handicapped, therefore, by the fact that fashion for the last three centuries has been to write choral music with accompaniment, the Bell Singers are not forced, like many present-day choirs who have endeavoured to revive the 'a capella' tradition, to confine their activities to the works of the early masters or to some specialized field such as that of Russian church music or the negro spiritual.

This season, the Leslie Bell Singers enhanced their fame by receiving top billing on the new Canadian General Electric Sunday evening radio programme which begins a second series early next fall on 48 English and 13 French stations. Their motion picture, "It's Fun to Sing", released in Canada last fall has enjoyed a long run in London, England and in New York where the Singers have been invited to make a personal appearance in Madison Square Garden this summer.

Programme

GOD SAVE THE KING

PART I.

1. Kyrie (from the "Missa Papae Marcelli") ..... *Palestrina*
2. Clair de Lune ..... *Debussy*
3. Eili Eili ..... *Ancient Hebrew*
4. Lullaby ..... *Brahms*
5. Two Spirituals: (*a*) Deep River
   (*b*) Rocka Ma Soul

PART II.

1. Follow Me Down to Carlow ..... *Irish*
2. Bonnie Doon ..... *Scottish*
3. I'se the Boy That Builds the Boat ..... *Newfoundland*
4. (*a*) A la Claire Fontaine ..... *French Canadian*
   (*b*) Ah, Si Mon Moine Voulait Danser!
5. Lollytoodum ..... *American*
6. Fantasy on Nursery Rhymes ..... *Bell*

INTERMISSION

PART III.

1. Choral Rhapsody from "The Mikado" ..... *Sullivan*
2. Ave Maria ..... *Schubert*
3. Echo Song ..... *Di Lasso*
4. Dry Bones ..... *Gerhardt*
5. Highlights from "Oklahoma" ..... *Rodgers*

Choral Arrangements by L. R. Bell (Copyright, Canadian Music Sales Corporation)